

# Ungrateful daughter upsets dad

**Dear Annie:** My wife and I are in our early 70s and have two daughters. The younger one lives nearby, is married and has a 2-year-old. The older one, "Deirdre," is divorced from a verbally and emotionally abusive husband.

We had warned Deirdre against marrying this man because they seemed incompatible, but we were supportive when she insisted she loved him. They moved 2,500 miles away, and we traveled as often as possible to see her and show that we cared. When she called at 3 a.m., crying and begging me to talk to her husband, I traveled alone to comply.

We suggested they seek counseling, which they did, but it didn't help. When Deirdre filed for divorce, we paid for her lawyer. When her ex left her high and dry, we paid for a new car so she could get to work and drive her daughter to school. We pay their airfare to come here for summers and holidays.

Annie, we are on a fixed income and it takes a lot of sacrificing to pay for all of these expenses. When we visit, my wife cooks and helps our granddaughter with her homework, while I clean house and take her to and from school.

## Annie's Mailbox

Creators  
Syndicate Inc.  
Kathy Mitchell  
and  
Marcy Sugar



Meanwhile, she has become just as confrontational as her mother. The girl never says thank you, is not affectionate toward us and has no respect for our authority.

Recently, Deirdre became angry when our granddaughter called her at work in tears over a broken necklace. We were partly blamed for the incident and we flew back home upset and are currently not on speaking terms with Deirdre. I recently sent her a birthday card with a check, telling her that I will always love her. I don't want to sever relations, but this relationship negatively affects my wife and I wonder whether there is a better solution. — *Up the Creek Without a Paddle*

**Dear Creek:** Yes. Let go. Deirdre is difficult and her life with an abuser didn't help. Her daughter is a combination of her parents, so

you cannot expect sweetness and light from the girl. What you can do is accept them as they are. You are equating your financial sacrifices with your treatment, but it won't always match up. Do what you feel comfortable doing, but without expecting an emotional reward. Deirdre and her daughter could benefit from counseling, and you can suggest it, but again, keep your expectations in check. It will save you a lot of grief in the long run.

**Dear Annie:** Oct. 13 is Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Metastatic breast cancer is cancer that has spread from the breast to other organs in the body, most commonly the bones, liver, lungs or brain. Unfortunately, most of us diagnosed with MBC will eventually die from the disease.

Additional research and treatment development will help a great many patients in the future. Please urge your readers to get informed. — *New York*

**Dear New York:** Thank you for the timely reminder. Any one who is interested in more information can contact the Metastatic Breast Cancer Network at mbcn.org or the National Cancer Institute at cancer.gov. We'll be thinking of you.

# Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Here's the way that's worked best for you and will continue to work best for you: Do things when you are ready to do them. Don't jump just because someone else is telling you to. Go at your own pace.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Children have nothing better to go by than their visceral response to people. Their sophisticated defensive skills are primal. That's a juxtaposition that works well and can be duplicated at any age.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Flaunt. The dictionary defines it as an act of ostentation, drawing attention in hopes of gaining admiration. But if you got it, why not? It's a celebration of that thing, for a moment...

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You may project onto another person angel-like qualities that they do not currently possess. And yet, they may possess these qualities in the near future because of your attention.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** So, you love him. Is it for his virtue? Probably not. It's because of the special way he makes you feel. You know, that was in you all the time. He just activated it.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Domestic happiness helps you feel emotionally supported enough to tackle the challenges. When you succeed, it's a source of pride for your loved ones, too.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Your hard work has paid off, and now you can chill out, revel and reflect on the curious path that brought your unpredictable success. Life is smiling at you.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** When it

reminds you of the old romance, take a moment to replay the whole story in your mind — the whole story, especially the end bit. The memory will have a positive effect on your current relationship.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Maybe it doesn't make the most sense to you right now, but you're a life-long learner. Don't forget that. Keep going until the pixels arrange themselves into a clear picture.

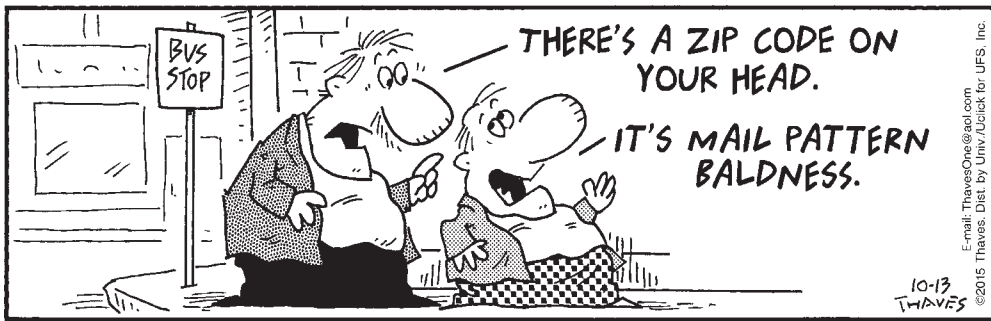
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Communication is your day's agenda. People talk; you listen. Sometimes they talk too much, and you tune out. Why say less with a lot of words? You can say a lot with a few.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** There is freedom in wildness, and very little of it in civilization. That is part of the reason you are so connected to nature right now. You need to let that soft animal inside you free.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You can do remarkable work before the rest of your workforce has caught their groove. Why? Because you are immune to the stresses that affect others.

**WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 14).** Happy birthday and welcome to your year of finally getting the admiration you deserve. Next month will be the hardest, so get ready — you'll need a few more skills in your arsenal. Come on, though, you've never been averse to learning. There's a party in February that will change the way you think of yourself. Taurus and Capricorn people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 15, 27, 31, 22 and 11.

## FRANK AND ERNEST



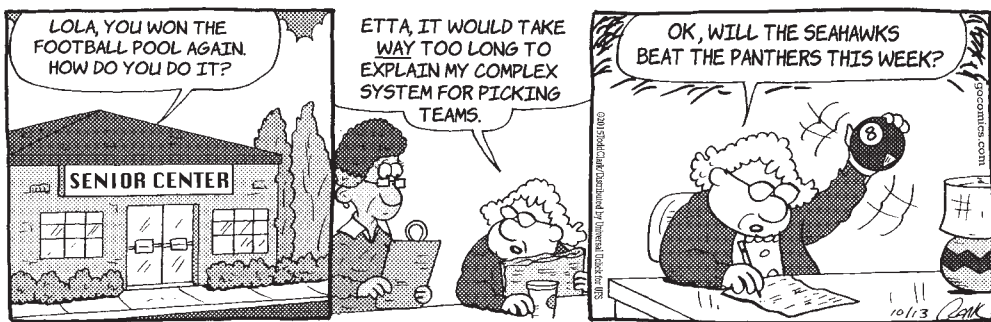
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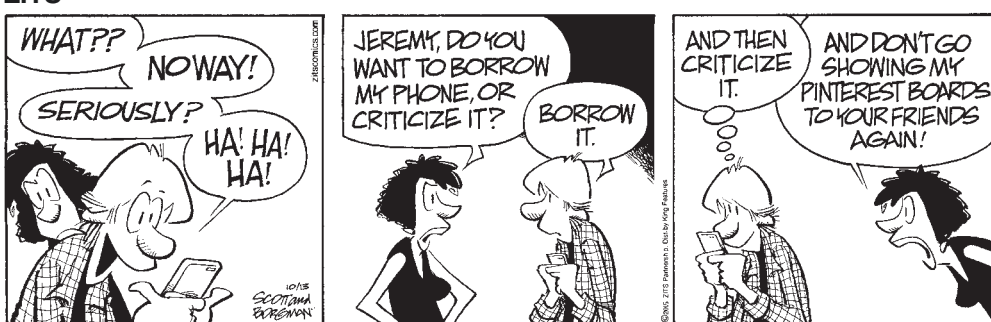
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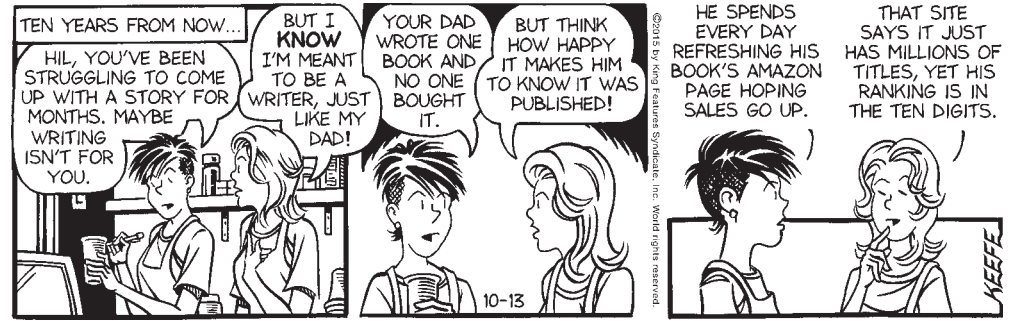
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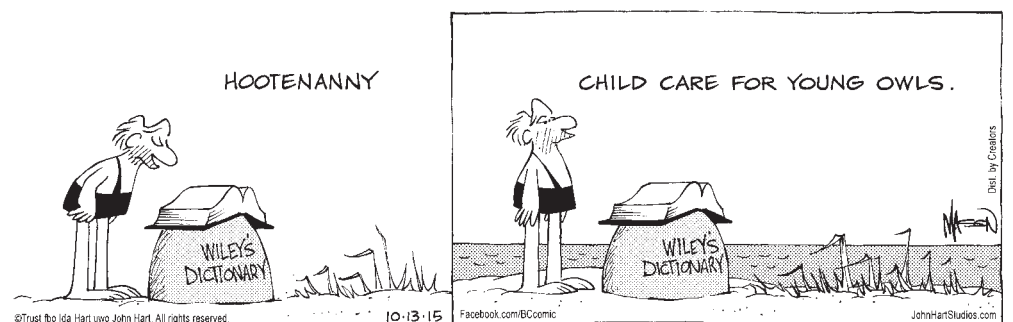
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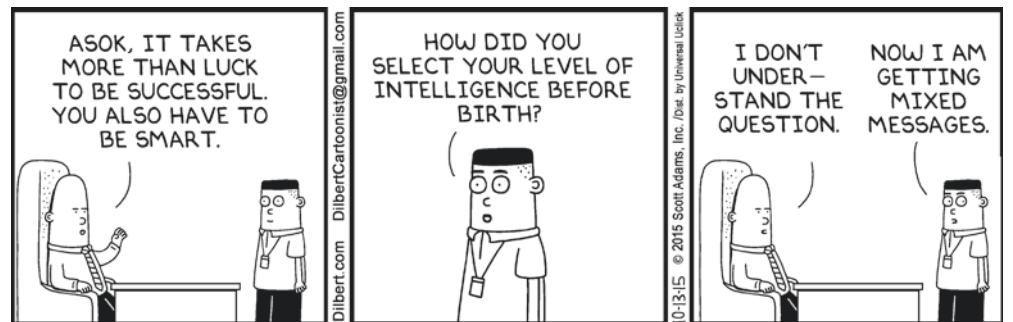
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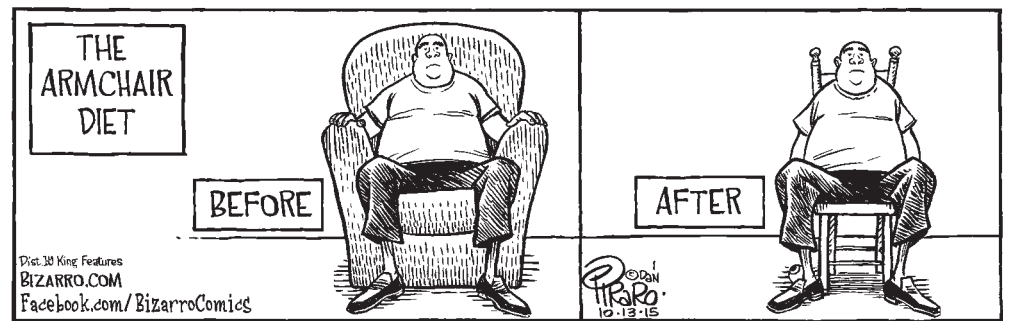
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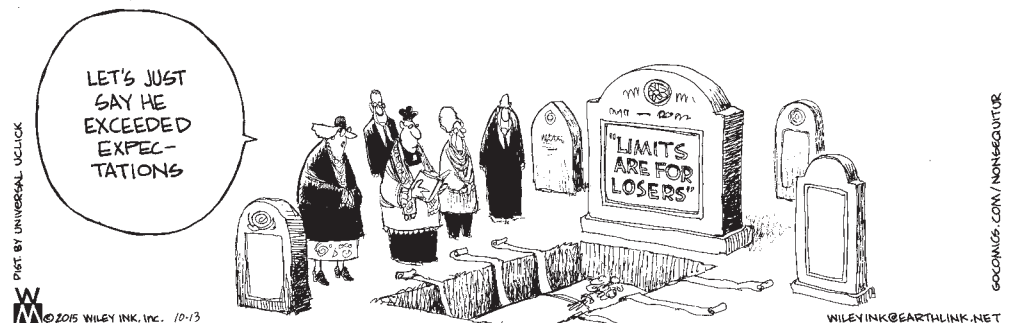
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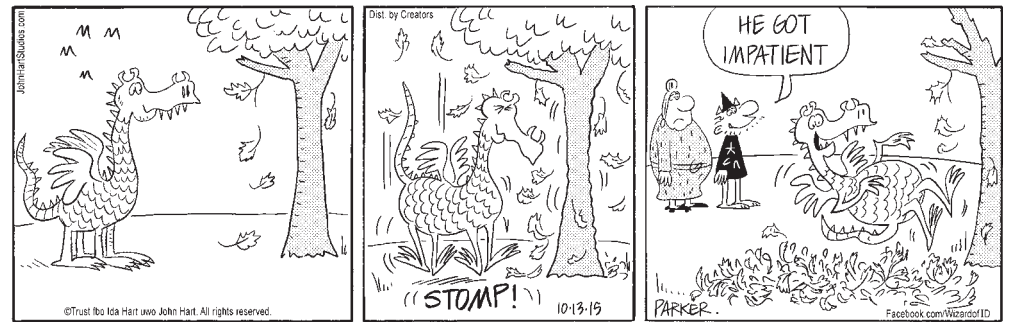
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## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

